

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 20-0763V

UNPUBLISHED

JAMES SOKOL,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: October 26, 2021

Special Processing Unit (SPU);  
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;  
Table Injury; Influenza (Flu) Vaccine;  
Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine  
Administration (SIRVA)

*Danielle Strait, Maglio Christopher & Toale, PA, Seattle, WA, for Petitioner.*

*Kimberly Shubert Davey, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.*

### **RULING ON ENTITLEMENT**<sup>1</sup>

On June 24, 2020, James Sokol filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*<sup>2</sup> (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that he suffered a left shoulder injury related to administration of an influenza (“flu”) vaccine he received on October 4, 2018. Petition at ¶¶22. Petitioner further alleges that his injuries have lasted more than six months and that he has not received compensation in the form of an award or settlement for his alleged injury. Petition at ¶¶21, 30. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On October 25, 2021, Respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent’s Rule 4(c) Report at

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Ruling will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

1. Specifically, Respondent “had no history of pain, inflammation or dysfunction in his left shoulder; his pain and reduced range of motion occurred within 48 hours of receipt of an intramuscular vaccination; his symptoms were limited to the shoulder in which the vaccine was administered; and no other condition or abnormality was identified to explain his symptoms.” *Id.* at 5. Respondent further agrees that “the scope of damages to be awarded is limited to Petitioner’s SIRVA and its related sequelae only.” *Id.*

**In view of Respondent’s position and the evidence of record, I find that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.**

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Brian H. Corcoran**

Brian H. Corcoran  
Chief Special Master